



Hazard
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training,
see story
below.

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Post Shorts

Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, July 18, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Summer study on human hearing

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory will conduct two studies: an outdoor field study on sound detection and distance estimation, and an indoor study on speech intelligibility from July through August. The studies will be conducted at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Paid listeners must be 18 to 25 years of age and not afraid of field elements (flies, bees, ticks, beetles, etc.). The total listening time will be about six hours.

Each civilian listener will be paid \$100 for participating in both studies. Military volunteers will receive a Department of Army certificate of appreciation, signed by a Colonel or above, for completing 40 hours of testing.

Interested volunteers should contact Kim Fluit, 410-278-5850, Email: kfluit@arl.army.mil, or Martha Dennison, 410-278-5918, E-mail: mjdennis@arl.army.mil, between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

New subsistence allowance available

Qualified servicemembers can receive up to \$500 a month under the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance, or FSSA. The new allowance program, which began May 1, is designed to help families currently on food stamps, however, all servicemembers may apply. Qualified servicemembers will receive a monthly cash allowance, not to exceed \$500.

Qualification is based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's gross monthly income eligibility limits based on household size. Also included in determining income eligibility are the basic allowance for subsistence, basic allowance for housing and all bonuses, special and incentive pays.

All servicemembers who think they may be eligible are highly encouraged to apply.

To apply for this nontaxable allowance, servicemembers must fill out an application at Army Community Services, building 2754.

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Beret is here, other Army headgear issues clarified



The 16th Ordnance Battalion's Staff Sgt. Timothy Anderson, right, operations sergeant, Weapons and Metalworks Services Department, and Pvt. Jonathan Glover, Company A, wear the U.S. Army black beret and BDU soft cap.

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

By Jennifer Wingfield
Army News Service

With the Army's recent adoption of the beret, many soldiers are asking what is to be done with their other headgear.

The answer is nothing out of the ordinary — at least not right away, according to Master Sgt. Kittie Messman, Army uniform policy officer, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

"When the policy for the black beret was published, we said the green service cap (or) hat would be worn for official duties as prescribed by the commander," Messman said. "At this time, no one will be required to buy or maintain the service cap (or) hat for ceremonial or official duties. As far as the garrison cap is concerned, the only soldiers who can wear it are those who have not been issued the beret."

Because not all Army installations or units have yet to be issued the beret, installation commanders will determine when their installation will transition from service cap and hat to the beret, said Lt. Col. Jerry Swanner, chief of personnel readiness, ODCSPER. "The beret will eventually be the standard headgear for the Class A and B uniform, and will also replace the Battle Dress Uniform cap in garrison," he said.

See BERETS, page 4

Success postures them for AEC Army's Transformation

By Jeannie Skillman
AEC

An organization that has been part of Aberdeen Proving Ground since 1989 just became a victim of its own success. Because the U.S. Army Environmental Center is currently undergoing several reorganization changes, its Environmental Quality Division will begin to phase out in the near future.

"USAEC is focusing on the future," explained Dave Guzewich, USAEC technical director. "We are realigning the programs to become more responsive to the Army's vision and meet the goals of transformation. A great deal of the core programs we have now spun off of programs that were started in the EQD over the past 10 years," Guzewich said.

"But EQD is not ending because it was a failure, it's ending because it was a success," he added.

When the reorganization is final in October, many people in USAEC will be working under a different division, but much of their work will stay the same. What once four main divisions at USAEC

will be realigned into five.

Along with other realignment changes, the Conservation Branch of EQD becomes one of USAEC's new divisions. According to Guzewich, the elevation of the Conservation Branch to a division reflects the center's increased commitment toward supporting the Army in the effort to balance readiness and stewardship. In 1993, two people worked part-time on conservation issues at USAEC. Eight years later, 36 people are working full time on these programs.

"The Army needs land to train," said

Paul Thies, current branch chief of Conservation. "The vision for our branch is to help ensure maximum availability of the land for training, keeping the land in the best biological condition for training and having the fewest restrictions on the soldier."

In the early 1990s, training at Fort Bragg was severely restricted because of the threat to the red cockaded woodpecker, an endangered species. Because of efforts led by the Conservation Branch, U.S. Army Environmental Center, the Private Lands Initiative was developed. This was the Army's first effort at developing off-post partnerships to help address encroachment issues of endangered species and is now a benchmark for

other Department of Defense, federal and state agencies to follow."

The Compliance Branch has had an active part in the Department of the Army's involvement in the Environmental Protection Agency Munitions Rule. Along with the EPA, members of the compliance team helped EPA develop the Military Munitions Rule, an amendment to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act that ensures the safe management of hazardous waste. The amendment addresses regulations that identify when conventional and chemical military munitions become hazardous waste and provide management for the safe handling, storage and disposal of waste military munitions.

The program will continue to receive attention under the center's reorganization, but now in the newly formed Range and Munitions Division.

"With the restructuring of the program, we're creating a platform for new synergies," explained Tim Alexander, project manager for the munitions rule. "We will be in a position to be more responsive to the

See AEC, page 9

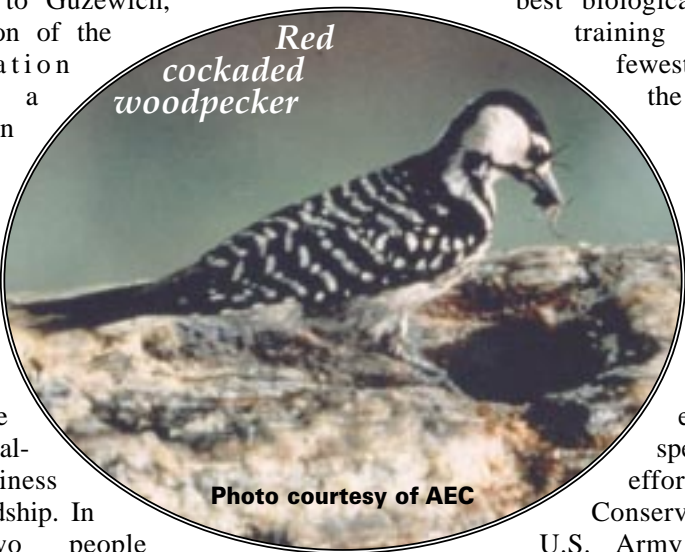


Photo courtesy of AEC

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AEC, Edgewood Elementary picnic together

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CHPPM presents cell phone use health risks

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Agreement eases transition for Army children

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Tennis finals



Sitting in a Biological Integrated Detection System, or BIDS, Staff Sgt. Ryan Keeton of the 7th Chemical Company, 83rd Chemical Battalion, performs analysis on soil samples collected during a situational training exercise with units from the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. in May.

Photo by STAFF SGT. JONATHAN MUNIZ

By Staff Sgt. Jonathan Muniz
520th TAML

Presented with a rare opportunity to train with sister units in preparation for real-world emergencies, the 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory and the U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit teamed with the 83rd Chemical Battalion from Fort Polk, La., for a situational training exercise, STX, geared toward the collection, identification and confirmation of chemical, biological and environmental hazards.

The units gathered at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa., for the 10-day, 24-hour technical mission dubbed the Pacific Eagle Integration STX. An important part of the exercise included the use of the Biological Integrated Detection System, or BIDS, and M93A1 NBC Reconnaissance System, also known as Fox vehicles.

A BIDS is a mobile laboratory mounted on a heavy high mobility multi-purpose wheeled vehicle with six instrumental components. Fox vehicles are self-contained mobile systems equipped with mobile mass spectrometers used in the detection and identification of chemical warfare agents.

"The purpose of the STX was to exercise current capabilities as the Army's forward deployable laboratory responsible for the analysis of chemical and biological agents in the battlefield," said Maj. Robert Roussel, 520th TAML chief, chemical threat assess-

ment team.

Roussel added that although they must coordinate smoothly in an actual field environment, the units involved have few joint training opportunities.

"This was an excellent chance for us to streamline collective training tasks," he said.

Units providing observers, controllers and support personnel for the exercise included the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Disease, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, the U.S. Army Veterinary Command and the U.S. Navy.

The STX was divided into three phases: initial identification and collection of chemical and biological hazards, transport of samples to the laboratory and laboratory confirmation of samples.

Consisting of the 7th and 51st Chemical companies, the 83rd Chemical Battalion performed the first phase of the operation. Using BIDS, the 7th Chemical Company conducted biological surveillance operations, providing identification of biological agents. The 51st Chemical Company had the task of detecting, identifying and marking contaminated areas using Fox vehicles.

Leading the second phase of the operation was

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Post Shorts

SHORTS, from front page

Point of contact is Tricia Jewitt, Consumer Affairs & Financial Assistance Program manager, 410-278-4372.
Unit commanders may also call to schedule an FSSA briefing.

Youth center opens playground to post residents

The Edgewood Area Youth Services Center playground is now available for use by post housing residents. The playground, located adjacent to the Edgewood Area Youth Center, will open to the community after the youth center activities are finished for the day, normally after 5 p.m. The area features a large climbing apparatus and sliding board.

The apparatus is designed to be used by older children, ages 6 through 12. An adult must supervise children who use this equipment if they are younger than 10 years old. It is not safe for children under the age of 6 to use this equipment.

The decision to expand usage was made because funding is not available to construct a modern playground facility for residents at this time. When funding becomes available, equipment will be purchased for the younger children. It is not anticipated that this will happen until late fall. Parents should ensure that their children approach the playground by crossing the street at the marked crosswalk. Parents are responsible for making sure that the equipment is not abused and that the area is kept free of litter.

For more information, call Carlos Phillips, director of the Edgewood Area Youth Center, 410-436-2862.

AA chapel hosts Bible adventure

The Aberdeen Area Post Chapel will hold Vacation Bible School at the AA Chapel, July 23 to 27. This year's theme is "Beachtrek Bible Adventure." Each day participants will experience the love of Christ through stories and activities that reveal who Jesus is and what He means for their lives. The adventure begins July 23, 6 p.m. for children ages 3 to 16. Call the chapel, 410-278-4333, to register your children.

Homes needed for AYUSA International exchange students

Academic Year in the United States of America, or AYUSA, International would like to extend an invitation to your family to host an international exchange student. Families across the United States are welcoming talented and motivated high school students into their homes this fall. If your family enjoys exploring new cultures and nurturing youth, take a few minutes to find out more about this wonderful opportunity to share your life with a special young person.

Contact your local AYUSA representative, Daniele Johnson, 410-272-6332, or visit Web site <http://www.ayusa.org>. AYUSA International is a premier non-profit exchange organization.

APG to conduct Command and General Staff College, Phases I & II Officers Course

Beginning in October, the 10th Battalion, 80th Training Division will conduct classes in Phases I and III at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Attending class offers many advantages over the correspondence option including access to knowledgeable instructors, the opportunity to learn from your fellow students with their expertise in a wide variety of backgrounds and a structured environment best suited for completing the course on time.

Enrollment is open to active duty, active Guard and Reserve, Army Reserve and National Guard officers in the rank of captain (promotable) and above.

If you plan to attend, enroll in ATTRS now to insure you have a reserved slot. The ATTRS numbers are as follows:

- Phase I: School: B701
Course: 701-1-250-C3(NEW-IDT)(F)
Phase: 1
Class: 016
- Phase III: School: B701
Course: 701-1-250-C3(NEW-IDT)(F)
Phase: 3
Class: 006

For more information on Phase I, contact Maj. Mark Valeri, 410-691-5201 at work, or at home, 410-569-4835 or E-mail Mavaleri@Regaldecision.com.

For more information on Phase III, contact Lt. Col. Jan Kolakowski, 410-436-2755 at work, or at home, 410-836-6712 or E-mail jekolako@sbccom.apgea.army.mil.


Enrich your relationships

Army Community Service will present Enrich Your Relationships to learn the techniques of building relationships, learning respect, communication, understanding and listening skills. Day and evening classes are forming. For more information, call Marie Mastracco, ACS, 410-278-7474/7478.

Restoration Advisory Board meeting

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, July 26, from 7 to 9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topics will include updates on the Lauderick Creek CWM Removal Action and the Bush River Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public. All APG employees and citizens are invited.

For more information, call the information line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.



Pollution Prevention

Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers and pesticides. Do not fertilize or use pesticides near ditches, gutters or storm drains.

Career workshop for teens

The Army Community Service Family Member Employment Assistance Program will sponsor a Career Search Workshop for youth ages 13 to 18, July 24, 1 to 3 p.m., at the ACS Career Focus Center, building 2752 Rodman Road. Retired Navy officer Edward Kreiner Sr., executive of numerous national corporations, will conduct the workshop.

The workshop is designed to motivate youth into thinking about what they want to do in the future and help them find what they need to do to achieve these goals. Topics include Expectation of an Employer; First Impression and Personal Appearance; Filling out an Application; Telephone Contact; Handling the Interview/Losing Your Fear of the Interview Process; Communication Skills; Development of a Basic Resume and Development of References.

For more information or for registration, call Marilyn Howard, ACS, 410-278-9669.

Scholarship offers opportunity for military students to attend Harvard

Harvard University recently announced the receipt of a scholarship fund intended to benefit undergraduates who have served in the military or who are military family members. Established in memory of Gen. James M. Gavin by his daughter Chloe J. Gavin and her husband, John F. 'Jay' Beatty III, both Harvard graduates, the scholarship honors Gen. Gavin's distinguished contributions to his nation and is intended to encourage members of military families to apply to Harvard University. Chloe Gavin and her husband understand that frequently, sending a child to Harvard—or even encouraging him or her to apply—is beyond the reach of many military families. By establishing this scholarship fund, they hope to send a message to these families that Harvard believes in admitting the best possible students from a variety of backgrounds. It has been their experience that individuals who come from military families generally have a strong personal commitment to giving their best to whatever they do, and, in their words, 'this is exactly the kind of commitment that Harvard looks for in its students.'

Individuals who have served in the military, as well as children of military families, will be considered for the scholarship. Harvard admits students regardless of financial circumstances and meets the full financial need of each student who qualifies for aid.

For more information on applying to Harvard, write to Harvard University, Admissions and Financial Aid, Byerly Hall, 8 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138; or visit Web site, www.harvard.edu.

Manager needed at EA Thrift Shop

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop will be accepting applications for the position of manager, July 12 to Aug. 14, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays. Applicant must be a valid military ID card holder. The position requires one month of manager training without pay.

For more information, contact Marcey Perez, 410-676-4733, or stop by the Thrift Shop, building E-1633.

Civilian retiree ID cards

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is responsible for issuing civilian retiree identification cards upon an employee's retirement. When the Request for Personnel Action for retirement is received in the CPAC, a retiree identification card will be sent to the employee at the

employee's agency. The employee should then take the retiree identification card with them when they clear post to have their picture taken and the card laminated. Clearance forms are obtained from the employee's agency administrative office.

Point of contact is Teri Wright, CPAC, 410-278-4331.

KUSAHC offers classes

The **Take Care of Yourself** class will be held the first and third Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Preventive Medicine conference room located on the first floor of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. All patients enrolled in TRICARE Prime are eligible to attend the class. The purpose of the class is to teach patients how to treat minor illnesses and injuries at home and when to see a doctor.

The class will be instructed by a registered nurse using the Take Care of Yourself and Taking Care of Your Child handbooks distributed to TRICARE Prime enrollees. Attendees will receive a Medicine Cabinet Card which will allow them to request specific over-the-counter medications without having to see a Primary Care Provider. This education class and pharmacy privilege is limited to TRICARE Prime enrollees only.

Added note: If an individual has attended this class at another military medical facility, it must be retaken at KUSAHC in order to draw medications from the pharmacy.

To sign up for this class, call 410-278-1725.

Shared access to military treatment facilities

To better serve beneficiaries, the National Capital Area of the North Atlantic Medical Command will transition to a Single Host Platform Composite Health Care System, or CHCS. This means that CHCS will share access to the Navy and Air Force CHCS and your provider at other military treatment facilities. This transition will occur Aug. 1 to 5.

During this period the pharmacy at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be without CHCS. The ability to process prescriptions, new and refills, will be extremely limited. If medication refills are needed during this period, call them in at least 72 hours prior to Aug. 1. If an emergency refill is needed during this period, bring the empty container to the pharmacy so that service may be expedited.

For more information, contact the chief of Pharmacy Services, 410-278-1939, or the pharmacy health systems specialist, 410-278-1946.

ACS offers Employment Readiness Workshop

By popular demand, the Army Community Service, Career Focus Center will sponsor another Employment Readiness Workshop from July 16 to 18, 9 a.m. to noon, building 2752, Rodman Road.

The workshop will prepare individuals for job interviews; teach how to avoid the usual (and some unusual) pitfalls when interviewing for a job; teach how to prepare a resume, including key words to place in the resume; search for hidden job markets and write a letter of transmittal and introduction to respond to an advertisement.

The workshop will be taught by Edward Kreiner Sr., a retired U.S. Navy officer and corporate executive of numerous national corporations. Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to allow their personnel the opportunity to attend the workshop.

To register for this free workshop, call Marilyn Howard, employment manager, ACS, 410-278-9669, or fax 410-278-9685. Participants must attend all three days to receive a Certificate of Attendance from Harford Community College.

Within your reach

Get answers about how the Army is safely eliminating the mustard agent stockpile stored at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

For information, call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office, 1011B Woodbridge, Center Way, Edgewood, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., 410-676-6800, or visit Web site www-pmcd.apgea.army.mil.

WIC returns to post

Women, Infants and Children, or WIC, is back at Army Community Service, building 2754, every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.


For information, call Diana Hayes, Parent and Children Together coordinator, 410-278-747

Ozone Action Days forecast on the Web

The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment sends ozone notification on code orange and code red days only. Flags are hung at various locations across the installation so that residents will know of an action day. On code Orange and Red days, APG takes extra steps to help reduce air pollution, such as the closing of military vehicle gas stations (unless there is an emergency), and ceasing paint spray booth operations.

Visit the scrolling screen on the main page of www.apg.army.mil to learn more about code green and code yellow Ozone Action Day.

For information on the APG Ozone Action Days plan, contact Rachel Swearingen, DSHE, 410-306-2268.



The *APG News*, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *APG News* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@usag.apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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EXHIBIT



Photo courtesy of WWW.VIVIDVISION.COM

Ordnance Museum announces sword exhibit opening

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground's U.S. Army Ordnance Museum will mark the opening of the Swords and Sabers of the Union Army exhibit on Friday, July 13 at 10 a.m. in the museum's exhibit hall.

The articles assembled by guest exhibit curator Steven J. Schmit, were contributed by private collectors and will be on display thru Sept. 30.

Artifacts in the collection of 30 edged weapons of the Civil War include Dragoon sabers, staff and field officer swords, enlisted swords and sabers, shoulder scales, belts, sword slings and images.

There is an interactive game for adults and children who want to test their knowledge after viewing the display and souvenir bookmarks donated by American Legion Westhampton Post No. 84, Richmond, Va.

The museum, located on the Aberdeen Area of APG, is open every day, 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. except for the Armed Forces, Memorial, Independence and Veterans Day holidays. Admission is free and donations are encouraged. Tours are self-guided and photographs may be taken indoors and outdoors in the 25-acre Tank/Artillery Park.

Environmental Center, Edgewood Elementary School team up for fifth grade picnic fun

By Jeannie Skillman
AEC

Fifth grade Edgewood Elementary School students and personnel from the U.S. Army Environmental Center teamed up at the end of June for one last day of fun before summer vacation.

Teachers and school volunteers prepared a picnic at Capa Field on Aberdeen Proving Ground's Edgewood Area while the kids participated in activities promoting awareness of natural resources, guided by AEC environmental experts.

At one activity near the water's edge of the Chesapeake Bay, Environmental Specialist Geoffrey Jay gave kids a chance to have a hands-on approach to learning the importance of sub-aquatic vegetation to the health of the world's largest estuary. They discussed the vegetation they saw growing in the Bay and the importance of the Chesapeake.

Technical Advisor Joe Ricci read an environmental camping story, "The Night the Bear Ate Goombaw."

At another station, students played a game of ducks and geese, where they acted out the migration of birds and learned the importance of the migratory bird habitat. Kids felt first hand the results of habitat loss when they landed on fictitious oil spills.

AEC and Edgewood Elementary School began their award-winning school partnership in 1997. Every school year, activities are held including a mock trial, science night and Earth Day celebration.

"It's a win-win situation," said Allyn Watson, school principal. "The kids have a great time and they always learn something. We look forward to our continuing partnership with AEC."



Photos by JEANNIE SKILLMAN

Above, Environmental Specialist Geoffrey Jay shows Amber Brown, left, and Sitisha Stewart sub-aquatic vegetation found in the Chesapeake Bay. Right photo, from left, Miracle Jones, Jaybren Moore, Erika Lloyd, Joyyel Wallace, Trayvon Harris and Tristen Copper pretend to be ducks and geese flying to their habitat at the recent Edgewood Elementary School 5th graders picnic. If the ducks or geese landed on an oil spill (paper plates marked with black magic marker), they had to sit out of the game because they had been injured from an oil spill.



TRICARE updates several key issues

Communications

TRICARE has new toll-free telephone numbers staffed by experts who can help beneficiaries find out about TRICARE, TRICARE for Life, the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program and TRICARE Prime Remote for active duty and their family members or everything you want to know about TRICARE. The new telephone numbers greatly expand TRICARE's communications efforts.

TRICARE General Info and Senior Pharmacy Program: 1-877-DoD-MEDS (1-877-363-6337)

TRICARE for Life program: 1-888-DoD-LIFE:(1-888-363-5433)

TRICARE Prime Remote program: 1-888-DoD-CARE (1-888-363-2273)

Hearing or speech-impaired beneficiaries: TTY/TDD 1-877-535-6778

Hours of operation (all times Eastern) are: Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Holidays: Closed

Chiropractic care

The Defense Department is working on a chiropractic benefit. Under the 1995 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress directed the Department of Defense to conduct a Chiropractic Health Care Demonstration Program at selected military treatment facilities, or MTFs. The Department of Defense completed that demonstration in September 1999 and submitted a report with

See TRICARE ISSUES, page 14

Are cell phones hazardous to our health?

By Brad J. Roberts
CHPPM

Cellular phone usage has increased dramatically in the last decade. Currently there are over 100 million cell phone users in the U.S. and 500 million users worldwide. Cell phones emit radiofrequency radiation just like microwave ovens, radio and television broadcasting towers, radar systems, transmitting satellite communications, and CB radios, to name a few. Cell phones in the U.S. are in the 800 MHz and 1800-1900 MHz frequency bands of the electromagnetic spectrum. Periodically, we hear from the media of suspected health risks – typically with regard to cancer. Are there health risks from the RF radiation emitted from cell phones?

As the Department of the Army’s proponent for RF radia-

tion protection, the Radiofrequency/Ultrasound Program, USACHPPM, has been asking this question since 1984 (the first year cell phones were introduced in the U.S.).

There are two basic areas of concern with regard to cell telephones - the handheld cell phone units and the towers to which the cell phones communicate. The cell phones are targeted because the antenna is used close to the head. Cell phone antenna towers are targeted because they are so visible in our communities and assumed by some people to emit high levels of RF radiation.

Why are health concerns raised? Many times when the average citizen hears the word radiation, that is ionizing radiation that can break chemical bonds. High doses of ionizing radiation can cause cancer, birth defects, and chromosomal damage. Radiofrequency radiation does not have enough energy to cause ionization and is therefore considered “nonionizing”.

High levels of RF energy absorption can cause biological

effects to humans. Most effects reported in scientific literature are thermal, i.e. heating of body tissues - much in the same way that microwave ovens heat food. A microwave oven has a power output that is 1,000 times greater than a cell phone (600 watts versus 600 milliwatts) because the radio waves are used intentionally for the heating of food rather than for communication purposes.

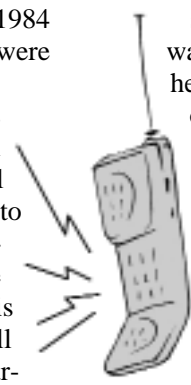
Due to the possibility of thermal heating from RF exposure, RF personnel exposure standards have been developed by national and international organizations, and government agencies. These standards cover the RF portion of the electromagnetic spectrum from 3 kHz to 300 GHz, including the frequencies used for cellular communications. The RF personnel exposure standards used by the DA and Department of Defense (DODI 6055.11) are adapted from those of the American National Standards Institute/Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. That stan-

dard is a national consensus standard developed by research, government, and private industry. All RF exposure standards are based on scientific research of potential biological effects from RF energy absorption and incorporate at least a 10-fold safety factor to protect humans from RF levels shown to cause biological effects.

The RF radiation levels emitted by cell phones or cell phone towers do not exceed the levels specified by the ANSI, IEEE, and DOD for human exposure and are much lower than any exposure levels shown to cause adverse effects.

As research studies continue worldwide to determine if there are long-term health effects from low-level RF exposure, the Radiofrequency/Ultrasound Program will continue to monitor the latest findings and participate on DOD, national, and international standardization committees

Fact sheets and numerous links on cell phone issues and other RF radiation issues can be obtained by viewing CHPPMs Web site at **h t t p : / / c h p p m - www.apgea.army.mil/rfup/web-site/home.htm**.



Garrison caps still in Army inventory

BERETS, from front page

The blue and white service caps will still be worn with the dress blues and white uniforms, respectively.

Soldiers who travel from a unit that has the beret issued will wear the beret while on temporary duty, Swanner said. However, soldiers making a permanent change of station move from a unit with the beret to one which has not been issued the new headgear will wear the garrison cap, unless the installation commander allows otherwise.

The bottom line is that anyone who has a garrison cap should hold on to it for at least the next year, Messman added

As far as the BDU cap, it is considered a utility cap and will continued to be issued, Messman said.

“When soldiers perform activities that are very work oriented, where the beret would become soiled, damaged, or where it is just not appropriate, the commander of the unit can direct wear of the BDU cap,” Messman explained. “Such situations would

exist when the soldiers are out on a field exercise. Normally soldiers wear the Kevlar helmet but when they are not doing actual training, the commanders can tell them to take the helmets off and in that case, they would wear the BDU cap.”

Messman gave other examples of work in the motor pool or on post detail where the BDU cap would be more appropriate than the beret.

“The beret is not a utility type of headgear,” Messman said. “It is not meant for work activities, and also, we do not have a lot of them. We don’t want them worn in situations where they can get really dirty. Right now we don’t have enough of them to turn in for replacements.”

ODCSPER is currently working on an update of AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniform and Insignia, to include specific guidance on the wear of the beret, Messman said. The revision is slated for release by the end of the calendar year

Wills, life insurance, minor children - easing the pain for your survivors

By Susan Grendahl
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate

Although parents hope to live to see their children reach adulthood, that is not always the case. It is never too early to plan. Looking over life insurance policies, creating a new will or revising an old one can give a parent peace of mind and help protect the assets of minor children. Some key points that parents should consider with regard to minor children and assets include:

Understanding the difference between a guardian and a trustee

Guardians and trustees hold distinctly different legal duties. A guardian is a person lawfully invested with the power and charged with the duty of taking care of a child during his or her minority. This includes caring for the child’s physical well being in every aspect of daily life. A trustee is a person appointed or required by law who holds property “in trust” for the benefit of another person (beneficiary) and who must carry out specific duties with regard to that property. Many parents appoint the same person to be a child’s guardian and trustee. **Leaving cash assets to minor children in a trust or naming a guardian under the Uniform Gift to Minors Act or Uniform Transfer to Minors Act**

Children who are minors are not permitted under state law to receive cash assets outright upon a parent’s death. Keep in mind that life insurance policies are considered cash assets but are not included in probate. Therefore, a parent should name a trustee for minor children as part of a life insurance policy. It is not wise to rely on the wording in a will because a will and a life insurance policy are two separate documents. Ensure that money is earmarked for minor children by leaving all cash assets to them in a trust, naming a specific trustee. Often people make

the mistake of leaving cash assets to minors without appointing a trustee. Failure to do so can lead to extensive legal proceedings. If one parent dies the surviving spouse is not automatically named as the trustee. He or she still has to petition the court to be named as the trustee unless the decedent specifically named the spouse in his or her will and life insurance policies. Bottom line – name trustees. People may feel creating a trust in a will or naming a trustee is too cumbersome, so they leave the cash assets intended for the children to an adult outright. That adult has no legal obligation to use the money for the minor children. The Uniform Gifts/Transfer to Minors Act is slightly different from a trust and has very specific guidelines that may vary from state to state. However, in all states, the person who is named as the guardian of the children will also take care of the children’s inherited property. A person does not name a separate trustee when using the Uniform Gift/Transfer to Minors Act. Under this act, the amount of time that a child must get the guardian’s permission to access cash assets depends upon the child’s age at the time of the parent’s death and the parent’s state of legal residence. Consult an attorney to determine if a trust or the Uniform Gift/Transfer to Minors Act is the better choice.

Avoiding naming the beneficiary of a life insurance policy as “your estate,” “by will” or “by law”

Life insurance proceeds are not included as part of a probatable estate. This means that when someone dies, loved ones who are the beneficiaries of the policy will be able to receive the proceeds without waiting for the will to be probated. Beneficiaries must present a death certificate to the life insurance company. Life insurance proceeds are not taxed. A decedent should not leave insurance to his or her “estate,” “by law” or “by will” or the policy will become part of the estate. This will

tie up the beneficiary’s ability to receive the proceeds prior to probating the will. This crucial mistake may also result in negative tax consequences for loved ones. The key point is to name specific people to receive the life insurance proceeds. A person should not rely upon any other legal instrument to carry out his or her intent. If minor children are primary or contingent beneficiaries of a life insurance policy, name a trustee in the life insurance policy itself. For example, state, “I name my mother, Mrs. Jones, as the trustee for my minor children, Sally and Jonnie, as beneficiaries of my life insurance policy to divide equally.” **Making a plan for the care of minor children that does not assume that the spouse is still alive, as a decedent and spouse may die together**

Generally, when someone dies and the spouse survives, he or she will maintain guardianship over the children of the marriage. When both parents die together and neither has a will naming a guardian for minor children, the court will have to appoint one. For children born out of wedlock or from divorced homes, the court will most likely grant guardianship to the living biological mother or father of the child regardless of who is named in the decedent’s will. This may lead to complications for blended families and those children who have grown attached to stepparents. The court will ultimately determine who receives guardianship of the children, but the decedent’s intent expressed in his or her will may carry great weight.

For answers to questions concerning this topic, make an appointment to see a legal assistance attorney in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground by calling 410-278-1583/1584. This service is provided to active duty military and family members and retirees and their family members.

TRICARE University is open to the public

Courtesy of <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>

TRICARE University, an on-line version of the TRICARE Basic Student Course, is now available to anyone who wants to improve their understanding of the TRICARE benefit. This includes individuals whose job it is to provide advice on the military health care program for those seeking in-depth knowledge of the benefit. TRICARE University introduces its students to the health care benefits available for uniformed services beneficiaries and family members. In addition, this course provides customer service guidance and an overview of TRICARE administration.

One of the issues from the Aberdeen Proving Ground Family Action Plan Symposium was to set up training for units to have a TRICARE assistant officer or non-commissioned officer.

“The training from the TRICARE University is an excellent start to this program,” said Lt. Col. Joshua Kimball, deputy

commander for administration at APG’s Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. “This is an opportunity for units to designate an individual or two within the unit to take this self-paced TRICARE training.

“Units are requested to notify KUSAHC of those taking the training so we may be able to update the TRICARE Assistance Officer/NCO roster as changes develop,” Kimball said.

The TRICARE Liaison Office will assist those representatives who still have questions after the training by calling 410-278-1881.

TRICARE University consists of 13 lessons, practice questions and non-graded examinations that are accessible at the end of each lesson. The questions reinforce lesson content and promote learning with immediate feedback and, if necessary, guided review.

A “Course Objectives” button takes students through information related to objectives, prerequisites, and requirements. Those new to the TRICARE University’s Web-based

learning environment can use the “Navigation Tutorial” section to learn how to navigate through the various features and functions available in the course.

At the end of this course, students should be able to recall the basic benefits of TRICARE options, pharmacy and dental programs, match available health benefit options with beneficiary eligibility status and category, calculate costs and file claim forms. They should also be able to find a list of resources available on the Internet and from TRICARE Management Activity, if they need further information.

TRICARE University can be found on the TRICARE Web site at <http://199.211.83.208/public/homepage.html> or by going to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>, clicking on “Browse by Topic” to get the drop-down menu, and then selecting TRICARE University.

Worldwide caution issued for U.S. citizens

Courtesy of MilitaryReport.com

The U. S. State Department recently issued a public announcement urging U.S. citizens to maintain a high level of vigilance against possible terrorist attacks.

Air Force News Service reports that the Dynamics of International Terrorism Course, run by the U.S. Air Force Special Operations School, teaches four basic principles that make up any good personal security program — staying informed, staying low-key, staying unpredictable, and staying alert.

Some precautions to take are:

- Seek out current threat and cultural information beforehand for any location you will go to, including if Americans are being targeted and how.
- Look like a local and avoid flashy clothing and cars; Reduce the number of places you frequent, and vary your travel routes between home and the office.
- Be constantly aware of your surroundings.

More information is available at: http://www.eucom.mil/hq/ecs_m/travel.htm, <http://www.dtic.mil/afps/news/9810152.html> and <http://travel.state.gov>.

Community Notes

**FRIDAY
JULY 13
LADIES NIGHT OUT**

Top of the Bay presents “Ladies Night Out,” from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Main Ballroom. Music will be provided by DJ Sir Knight. Dress to impress - no jeans, boots, sweatsuits, sneakers or bandannas. Dress code will be enforced. A DVD player will be raffled as part of the evening’s activities.

Tickets cost \$6 in advance, \$10 at the door. To purchase tickets, call Sgt. 1st Class Bryan Copeland, 1-877-937-9936. You must be 25 or over and have valid identification to attend.

**SATURDAY
JULY 14
AUDITIONS FOR SHOW**

Auditions for Sisters Striving For Success, Inc.’s “Third Annual ShowTime at the Apollo” will be held at Aberdeen Middle School from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Children’s category is 7 to 14 years old and adult category is 15 years and older.

There will be tryouts for the roles of Steve Harvey and Kee

Kee Shephard, the actual host and hostess of the original Apollo Theater.

All funds will be contributed to the nonprofit organization’s Scholarship Fund, and distributed to graduating seniors in Harford County.

If you are interested in scheduling an appointment to audition or participate as a vendor, contact Selena Watson 410-273-6367.

**MONDAY
JULY16
EFMP BOWLING NIGHT**

Exceptional Family Members and their familes are invited to bowl at the Aberdeen Area Bowling Center for a reduced rate, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

If you need special accommodations, call Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP coordinator, 410-278-7474/7478.

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 18
DINNER AT AA CHAPEL**

The Officer’s Christian Fellowship Bible Study groups in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas will sponsor a potluck dinner at

the Aberdeen Chapel at 6:30 p.m. Retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Ward Graham, the OCF Eastern Regional Coordinator, will be the guest speaker.

For more information, call Chap. (Maj.) Bill Knight, 410-278-4333.

FEW MEETING

The July meeting of the Maryland Tri-County Chapter of Federally Employed Women will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Oriole Room of the Gunpowder Club, Edgewood Area.

For additional information, contact Suzanne Schultz, 410-436-2865.

**THURSDAY
JULY 19
WARRANT OFFICERS MEETING**

The Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter of the United States Warrant Officer Association will hold its next meeting 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay. Lunch will be pay as you go.

For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officers Pete Hill or Jane Jones, 410-278-4979/3011.

**FRIDAY
JULY 20
BOSS POOL PARTY**

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and Morale, Welfare and Recreation are sponsoring a pool party at the Edgewood swimming pool, building E-4656, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost is \$5 and includes one meal. Other food will be on sale. One of Baltimore’s hottest D.J.’s will provide the music.

Invitees include all permanent party, ANCOC, BNCOC, and civilians, 21 years of age and older, not just single soldiers. Tickets can be purchased in advance from AA/EA recreation centers or the day of the event.

For more information or directions call the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, 410-278-2621, the Edgewood Area Stark Recreation Center, 410-436-2713, or Sgt. Laura Johnson,

410-306-2348.

**MONDAY
JULY 23
JOB OPPORTUNITY**

The Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program is sponsoring an employer showcase 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., building 2752, ACS Career Focus Center.

StaffMax Corporation will be recruiting forklift operators and packaging on production line operators. Applications will be available on site.

StaffMax will be recruiting for different positions on Aug. 20 at the same location.

To register, call Marilyn Howard, Directorate of Information Management, ACS Career Focus Center, 410-278-9669.

**FRIDAY
JULY 27
BASKET BINGO**

The Aberdeen Police Association is sponsoring Basket Bingo at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Food, drinks, and baked goods will be available. Tickets cost \$10; additional sets cost \$5.

For tickets, call Judy 410-272-7585 or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332.

**SATURDAY
JULY 28
BOOK SIGNING AT PX**

Author Tom Philpott will hold a book signing at the Main PX from noon to 2 p.m.

Philpott wrote Glory Denied, the saga of Jim Thompson, America’s longest-held prisoner of war during the Vietnam conflict.

Jim Thompson’s story is a wrenching tale of survival – first in the torture pits and on the long marches and starvation diets of a POW in Vietnam, and then as a returning soldier facing a tremendously changed culture at home.

LEAVE DONATION

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

Ameneh M. Arasten (maternity)
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Barbara Boyd (mother is ill)
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant)
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema)
Tammy Budkey
Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery)
Tracy H Coliano-Hirsch (maternity)
Geraldine S. Cragg
Dawn M. Crouse (surgery)
Bonnie K. Day (surgery)
Tricia Lin Dietz
Fred Dill
Surinder K. Dillon
Joseph R. Dugan
Messina Enderlein
Wayne Erb (wife is ill)
Willia Freisheim
Elaine C Garrity
Norman L. Greear
Barbara A Higdon, (breast cancer)
Michael L. Hitchcock (surgery)
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasitosis, fibromyalgia condition)
Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant)
Wayne A. Jaynes
Evelyn K. Johnson (surgery)
Carole Jones
Valerie A. Jones
Marlin Julian (heart surgery)
Jennifer Keetley (maternity)
Beverly King (caring for husband)
William Klein
Yvonne Lissimore (knee surgery)
Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)
Edna L. Lobodzinski (eye surgery)
Rebecca G. Mercer-Leto (heart attack)
Stacy Miller (maternity) ,
Sandra W. Miller (back surgery)
Mary V. Overstreet (twisted and sprained wrists and legs)
Cecil Pennington (surgery)
Debi L. Petosky (back surgery)
Mary E. Pettitway
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery)
Michael Reynolds
Boyd J. Richards (care of mother)
Denise Robinson (maternity)
Ricky Ross (heart attack)
Tami C. Rowland (maternity)
Allan Scarborough (back surgery)
Ralph A. Scutti (care of daughter)
Sherry Schaffer
Lena Shelton
Gail H. Smith (death of husband)
Motoko Stahl
Rachel Swearingen
Ronald L. Taylor (chronic pulmonary disease)
Frances L. Thomas
Rosalind Walters-Kenion (maternity)
Cecelia Walton (respiratory problems)
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Amber M. Vanakin (care of husband)
Andrew M. Vaught (brain tumor removed)
Josephine O. Wojciechowski (care for elderly parents)

For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial at 410-278-1524 or fax 410-278-7877.

MWR UPDATE

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is a Morale, Welfare Recreation facility and is open to active and retired military, civilians, and contractors working on Aberdeen Proving Ground and their dependents. We are located in building E-4440 next to the military police station near the troop store. Hours of operation are Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 410-436-2153 during listed hours.

Ceramics class

A basic ceramics class will be held July 14, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class teaches the basics of mold pouring, glazing, and painting. Cost is \$7 plus supplies.

Woodshop Orientation

The woodshop will hold a safety orientation Aug. 4, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is the \$3 user fee. This class is required in order to use the woodshop.

Stained Glass

A beginning stained glass class will be held July 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Students will make a simple suncatcher using the copper foil method. Cost is \$25 and includes supplies.

Framing Class

A beginning matting and framing class will be held July 26 and Aug. 30, 5:30 to 9 p.m. Students must bring an 8 inch by 10 inch picture to class to frame. Register in advance, because class size is limited. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

OC&S LIBRARY

The Ordnance Center and Schools Library is located in the basement of building 3071. Hours are Monday and Thursday, 12 to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 12 to 7 p.m., and Friday, 12 to 4 p.m.

Don Stivers' prints are available from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools library catalog.



MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50

MOULIN ROUGE

Friday, July 13, 7 p.m.

Starring: Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor

Satine, the Sparkling Diamond, star of the Moulin Rouge and the city's most famous courtesan, is caught between the love of a young writer and another man's obsession. The writer, Christian, finds himself plunged into this decadent world where anything goes except falling in love. (Rated PG-13)



PEARL HARBOR (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, July 14, 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Starring: Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett

It was the end of innocence, and the dawn of a nation's greatest glory. It was during Pearl Harbor. Follow the story of two best friends, Rafe and Danny, and their love lives as they go off to join the war. (Rated PG-13)



2001 Miller Genuine Draft Country Concert

John Michael Montgomery, Diamond Rio and Tim Rushlow will perform in the 2001 Miller Genuine Draft Country concert Aug. 18 on Aberdeen Proving Ground's Shine Sports Field, rain or shine. Tickets may be purchased in Morale, Welfare and Recreation outlets such as the Post Bowling Alley, the Information Tours and Registration office in the Post Recreation Center or through Ticketmaster at 1-800-551-SEAT. Tickets cost \$20 in advance, \$25 at the gate. Gates open at 6 p.m. with the show starting at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-278-4011/4621.



SETS agreement aids mobile teens

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

Transferring between high schools among school districts surrounding or on nine Army installations may be getting a little easier — thanks to an Army-sponsored study of mobile Army teens.

Results of the Secondary Education Transition Study, which were released to the public earlier this month, led school officials who participated in the study to develop and implement a memorandum of agreement which lays out guiding principles for assisting transitioning military students. The MOA was signed last May.

Current participating school systems are: Muscogee County Public Schools by Fort Benning, Ga.; El Paso Independent School District by Fort Bliss, Texas; Cumberland County Public Schools by Fort Bragg, N.C.; Killeen Independent School District by Fort Hood, Texas; Clover Park School District No. 400 by Fort Lewis, Wash.; Lawton Public Schools by Fort Sill, Okla.; and Department of Defense school systems at Fort Campbell, Ky.; Baumholder, Germany, and Korea School District.

“The Army is committed to reducing turbulence in the lives of our soldiers and their family members and to doing the things that enhance their well-being and

quality of life” said Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White.

“The agreement between these nine school districts will improve predictability and enhance the quality of life for our soldiers and our families. We want to ensure no military child is left behind.”

An Army education team began collecting anecdotal experiences of transiting Army students to help senior leaders better understand the effects of turbulence. Based upon the team’s findings, the Army partnered with the Military Child Education Coalition, a non-profit organization, to conduct an intensive two-year qualitative research project into the challenges Army teens face in transiting from school to school and to provide recommendations to ease those challenges.

Specific study findings include:

- Military-connected students move from school system to school system about three times as often as other students.
- Records transfer and interpretation systems are neither consistently efficient nor effective.
- Variations in school calendars add to the challenges of transition.
- Variations in school schedules increase the probability of transition challenges.
- Problems with clear and timely information exchange, under-

standing/interpretation, coherent articulation of courses and credits, redundancy, and the lack of formalized reciprocity have compounded to produce frustration for parents, schools and youth.

- Extracurricular experiences are important to the “fitting in” process.
 - Vigorous and dynamic partnerships make a real and additive difference for both military and school organizations.
 - It is tough, regardless of circumstance and the age of the student, to be the “new kid” over and over.
 - Professional development and adequate staffing are on-going to provide students the caring and sensitive adult educators they deserve.
 - Army installations, parents and school systems need to work together in effective partnerships to keep each other informed and ease students’ transitions.
- Fixes to the majority of these problems are identified in the MOA. These include:
- Allowing parents to hand carry student records from one school system to another,
 - Developing virtual orientation tours of schools for posting on school and installation web pages,
 - Posting current and accurate extracurricular activities on school and installation web pages,
 - Communicating high school requirements for enhanced or alternate diplomas, options and opportunities for earning graduation credit, information about required state testing and opportunities available to senior students in transition to graduate from the sending high school through reciprocity,
 - Modeling what should be in a student portfolio,
 - Including senior-level military representation from the supported installation as an ex-officio member or adviser to the district school board/advisory council.

SETS examined 39 high schools in nine school districts on or surrounding selected Army bases, according to the study’s executive summary.

More than 420 military students who had transitioned at least once during high school and more

See SETS, page 9

Schools ease transition for Army children

SETS, from page 8

than 230 educators participated in structure interviews to gather research data.

After the research was gathered and analyzed, school board officials, high school principals and installation commanders from the studied areas were brought to Washington to hear the results, said retired Lt. Gen. H.G. “Pete” Taylor, MCEC chairman.

“The meeting allowed the educators to see beyond just their schools into a much broader community,” Taylor said. “As they talked, they saw they had common transitioning student problems with school districts across the nation. The memorandum of agreement they developed was just a natural progression to address those problems.”

Dr. Bill Harrison, superintendent of Cumberland County Public Schools, was one of the participants throughout the research collection and MOA processes.

“The research data gave us clear evidence mobile youngsters face serious issues as they move from school to school,” Harrison said. “I think sometimes we have the tendency to miss the obvious. The meeting the Army hosted allowed us to focus on the obvious and work toward making life a little easier for transitioning students and their families.”

The MOA is likely to include many more school districts in the near future, according to Maj. Becky Porter, a special assistant to the chief of staff of the Army for education.

“The agreement has enormous potential for growth to hundreds of other school districts,” Porter said, “not only to those by Army and other military installations but to ones without a military connection, because the research it is based upon speaks in a language educators readily understand. Another reason it will grow is because it makes sense to society at large which has become increasing mobile over the past 20 to 30 years.”

One thing to note, the memorandum of agreement is not between the Army and the school districts; it is an agreement between the districts themselves, Porter pointed out. Other school districts may join the agreement on a voluntary basis, she added, as long as they join without requirements to change the basic MOA.

While the SETS agreement establishes a framework for the successful transfer of mobile youth, it does not guarantee it, said Dr. Mary M. Keller, MCEC executive director and the study’s primary researcher.

“Parents need to be intimately involved throughout the transition process from one school to another,” Keller said. “They need to be academic advocates for their children. Basically that means being the best guidance counselor their children can have, coming up with a well thought out plan and following through.”

Copies of the SETS executive summary and MOA, as well as an academic advocacy guide for parents, are being distributed to all Army installation commanders and school liaison offices, Porter said. The executive summary will be posted on the worldwide Web

Fisher House available in Germany

By Alicia Gregory
Army News Service

In a landmark partnership between Fisher House Foundation Inc. and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe, the first Fisher House built outside of the United States was dedicated in Landstuhl, Germany, June 18.

Completion of the Landstuhl Fisher House took half the time expected.

The success was due to the teamwork of Fisher House Foundation officials and U.S. Army Engineers working on the project, according to Ray Flock, Chief U.S. Army Engineer Group, Project Management Section.

“To pull this together, (U.S. Army Europe) had to find a site, the money to fund that site, and get the approval to build the house itself. It pulled together all the team members, the engineers,

legal and contracting staff,” said Flock. “We faced complexities with status of forces agreements, so we turned to the people who could get it done, the Army Corps of Engineers. We could not have built this house without them.”

The houses are refuge for what U.S. Army Europe Commanding Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs called “families in crisis.”

“One of the difficult things for the chain-of-command is reaching out to the family when they have to deal with this sort of crisis. This facility will make that process more capable and efficient,” Meigs said.

The 28 Fisher houses already in the United States and now Europe, serve as comfortable, temporary homes for the families of servicemembers who are hospitalized. The houses are built near medical facilities, so that family

members can stay near their loved ones undergoing medical care.

The charge is approximately \$10 per night.

Located between the hospital and on-post housing, the Landstuhl Fisher House is a 5,600 square-foot home with eight rooms serving up to 16 family members. Two of the rooms on the lower floor are designed for handicapped access. Each room includes bath, common kitchen, dining room, living room and laundry facilities.

See FISHER HOUSE, page 14

AEC celebrates success

AEC, from front page

Army’s needs.”

Guzewich was one of two people who started the original division in 1989, then called Environmental Compliance Division, under what was then the U.S. Army Toxic and Hazardous Materials Agency. USATHAMA became USAEC in 1993. The compliance division evolved into the EQD in 1995, and the original mission of the division focused primarily on air, water and hazardous waste compliance, training and reporting. In the past 12 years, the division has grown to 75 employees and has added programs in conservation, pollution prevention and the Environmental Compliance Assessment System.

ECAS helps Army commanders attain, sustain and monitor compliance with the federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations. Installations can identify compliance deficiencies; develop corrective actions to address those deficiencies and track actions.

“There are so many excellent programs to have come out of the compliance division,” said Bill Herb, current chief of EQD. “I have come to appreciate and be impressed by the breadth and depth of its activities, but most impressive are the people that I have had the opportunity to work alongside.”





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The **new ad sizes** and **digital ad requirements** for our papers are outlined in a convenient format which may be saved or posted as a reference sheet. All size changes will begin with the July 18 edition of The Aegis. Your account representative and our ad design department, as always, are ready to work closely with you to ensure that your ads fit our new format.

This modest size change further enhances the tradition of our newspapers as the number one source of news and information in Harford County, and continues to make us the **best value** for delivering customers your business.

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HARFORD (MAGAZINE)

16th Ordnance, 520th TAML produce top tennis players

Sealy repeats as women’s champion

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Intramural tennis closed out the 2001 season with championship matches at the Aberdeen Area tennis courts on June 26. The 2001 winners were David Smith, 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory, men’s open; Bridgette Sealy, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, women’s; David Snyder, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, men’s masters; and Matthew Patton, USMC, men’s seniors.

The 2001 runners-up were, Donovan Hackett, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion, men’s open; Laquitta Joseph, Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion, women’s; Walter Litzenberger, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, men’s masters and Rodney Harris, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, men’s seniors.

Sealy took home her second consecutive championship after a 6-0, 6-1 win over Joseph, whom she first met in 2000 when Joseph was enrolled in the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course.

“This is the second time we met and practiced together for a tournament,” Sealy said, adding that the two continue to learn from each other.

Now enrolled in the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools’ Warrant Officer Basic Course, Joseph said she enjoyed playing her friend.

“We’re a lot alike, though she was more on top of her game today than I was,” Joseph said.

For the men’s open winner, Smith, the championship trophy should make a nice parting gift. The veterinary technician soon leaves for an assignment in Guam after five years on APG.

“It was nice to win before I left,” Smith said.

Men’s runner-up Hackett, said he knew it would come down to he and Smith.

“I knew I had it in the semi-finals, but I knew the finals would be tough against him,” Hackett said. “I gave it my best shot anyway.”



Intramural tennis champions and runners up pose with their trophies in the Aberdeen Area Tennis Courts. From left, Donovan Hackett, HHC 16th, men’s open runner up; Laquitta Joseph, Company E 16th, women’s runner up; David Smith, 520th TAML, men’s open champion and Bridgette Sealy, HHC 16th, women’s champion. Not shown are men’s masters champion, David Snyder, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment and men’s seniors champion, Matthew Patton, U.S. Marine Corps.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Above left, Men’s open division runner-up Donovan Hackett, HHC 16th, homes in on an incoming tennis ball during the first match of the division finals. Hackett fell 6-1, 6-4 to David Smith, 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory. Above right, Laquitta Joseph, women’s division runner up, responds with two-handed pressure to an incoming volley from her opponent.

Edgewood Area units participate in chemical training exercise

TRAINING, from front page
TEU. As is its normal mission, TEU was responsible for transporting chemical and biological samples from BIDS or Fox vehicles and special operations units to field laboratories for analysis. The unit also provides escorts from overseas to the states for verification at either the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense or the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Defense.

The final phase, conducted by the 520th TAML, consisted of environmental surveillance in three stages: environmental health threats, chemical weapon threats and biological weapon threats. The unit’s responsibilities included water analysis, radiation surveys of soil and water and air-sampling missions in closed and open environments. Other surveillance included identification of virulent ticks, mosquitoes and wasps.

Participants included:
Tactical Command: Lt. Col. George Rennison, VETCOM, officer in charge; Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Perez, noncommissioned officer in charge; Sgt. 1st Class Sam Oak, Sgt. Michael Henry, Spc. Eileen Arnold and Spc.

Iupita Taoete.
Environmental Surveillance: Capt. Jerry Fogg, officer in charge; Staff Sgt. Goodwin, NCOIC
Professional Fill-in System, or PROFIS: Lt. Col. Arthur Baker, CHPPM, and Capt. Craig Moss, WRAIR
Support team: Staff Sgt. Isaac Lester, Sgt. Tawalla Fentress, and Spcs. Lorna Libert, Robert Spencer and Billie J. Harvey.
Chemical Warfare: Maj. Robert Roussell, 520th TAML, OIC; Staff Sgt. Jonathan Muniz, NCOIC
PROFIS: Capt. Patterson Taylor, MRICD
Technical team: Staff Sgt. Andre Chance, Sgt. Ophelia Burkholder and Spcs. Kendra Shuman, James Shelton, Douglas Jackson and Nelly Perez.
Biological Weapons: Maj. Steve Duniho, MRIID; Staff Sgt. Joseph Insalaco, NCOIC.
PROFIS: Capts. Peter Platterborze, MRIID; Matthew Harris and Michael Ingram, WRAIR.
Technical team: Sgts. Christian Novenario, Richard Arestad, Maria Barry and Spcs. Christina Haustein, R. David Hanstine and Rafael Cebollero.

DLES personnel lead recovery of drowned boater

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Personnel from Aberdeen Proving Ground’s Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security’s Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Division led recovery efforts for a drowned Baltimore County man who disappeared in the waters off the Edgewood Area of APG on June 27.

Rescuers from Baltimore and Harford counties, and the U.S. Coast Guard responded to a 911 call received about 9 p.m. from witnesses who said the victim became separated from his boat after he jumped overboard near Maxwell Point in the Gunpowder, to retrieve a hat, and never resurfaced.

The body of Kenneth L. Draughn, 33, was recovered about 10:30 a.m. June 29 by personnel from APG’s Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Division.

Noting that boaters normally frequent APG waters, George Mercer, APG chief of public affairs, said Draughn was not boating illegally.

“The Gunpowder River is open for boating whenever APG is not testing,” Mercer said, adding that APG units were summoned as soon as the area involved was discovered to be in APG waters. DLES personnel continued searching day and night until the body was recovered on June 29.

Officer Matthew Stewart, a member of the post’s Marine and Wildlife Division, said it’s typical for a body to take that long to resurface.

“Several factors including water temperature and tidal flow determines how quickly the body rises,” Stewart said, adding that the Department of Natural Resource Police were on hand when the body was discovered.

Draughn and his unidentified companion had no apparent link to the proving ground.



Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion’s Bridgette Sealy, sprints forward to meet a return volley during the intramural tennis finals at the Aberdeen Area tennis courts. Sealy went on to defeat her opponent, 6-0, 6-1 to winning her second consecutive women’s division championship.

TRICARE addresses members’ concerns

TRICARE ISSUES, from page 3
recommendations to Congress on March 3, 2000. Using civilian practitioners, chiropractic services are still offered at select facilities including: Ft. Benning, Ga.; Ft. Carson, Colo.; Ft. Jackson, S.C.; Ft. Sill, Okla.; Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; Jacksonville Naval Base, Fla.; Camp LeJeune, N.C.; Camp Pendleton, Calif.; National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md.; Scott Air Force Base, Ill.; Travis AFB, Calif.; Offutt AFB, Neb.; and Wilford Hall Medical Center, Texas. Effective Oct. 1, 2001, chiropractic services provided within the Department of Defense will only be available to active duty personnel at the 13 sites listed above.

As for the future of chiropractic health care, Section 702 of the 2001 NDAA directed the Defense Department to implement a chiropractic care program for active duty service members at designated MTFs. An implementation plan will be submitted to Congress in the summer of 2001.

ID cards
A separate beneficiary card is not required to receive health benefits under TRICARE For Life. Your Uniformed Services Identification card and your Medicare card are all you need for Medicare to pay first and TRICARE to pay second on your claims starting Oct. 1, 2001. In summer 2001, potentially eligible beneficiaries will receive a TRICARE For Life package that will include an information card, letter, benefit comparison chart, brochure, a survey form and return envelope for notifying TRICARE if you intend to cancel other health insurance. The information card is not needed to access care. The card is a handy (wallet-size) TRICARE For Life reference for you and your doctor.

DEERS update
All TRICARE beneficiaries should have up-to-date informa-

tion in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS. Eligible beneficiaries must have the most accurate family and beneficiary data in DEERS. Eligible beneficiaries may update their addresses in DEERS by:

- Visiting local personnel offices that have an ID card facility. (NOTE: You can search online for the location of the nearest ID card issuing office at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/>).
- Calling the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office Telephone Center at 1-800-538-9552. The best time to call the Telephone Center is Wednesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Pacific Time) to avoid delays,
- Faxing address changes to 1-831-655-8317,
- Mailing the change information to the DSO, Attn: COA, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, Calif. 93955-6771,
- Visiting a military treatment facility,
- E-mailing information to addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil and including the following information: sponsor’s name and social security number, name(s) of other family members affected by the address change, effective date of address information and telephone number (to include area code), if available.

To change information other than address data, however, beneficiaries may only visit an ID card facility, mail or fax changes with appropriate documentation to the address/numbers provided above. To learn what documentation is required, call an ID card facility or the DSO toll-free number, 1-800-538-9552. The hours of operation for DSO are Monday through Friday (excluding federal holidays), 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Pacific Time).

(Editor’s note: Courtesy of TRICARE Web page, <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/>.)

Fisher House opens in Germany

FISHER HOUSE, from page 9
Prior to the Fisher House, families stayed in billeting at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center or a hotel on the German economy.

The plaque above every Fisher House reads, “Their gift is dedicated to our greatest national treasure ... military service men and women and their loved ones.”

The Landstuhl facility marks the second house opening since the death of noted philanthropist Zachary Fisher who began building the houses with the support of

his wife, Elizabeth. Zachary Fisher, died June 4, 1999.

The Fisher Foundation’s senior partner, Anthony Fisher, represented the family at the dedication.

“The very least we can do for the men and women in the Armed Services is to provide them with dignity and the comfort of a home, sometimes far away from their real home,” he said.

(Editor’s note: Alicia Gregory is the Web manager for the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District.